

Claims

Please enter the following clarifying amendments:

1-40. (canceled)

41. (previously presented) A method for communicating emergency messages and cellular communications, the method comprising:

generating an emergency message with an emergency message transceiver, the emergency message having at least an identification code uniquely assigned to the emergency message transceiver;

communicating the emergency message from the emergency message transceiver to a network transceiver that is designated as the next transceiver along a predetermined path through a network of transceivers such that the emergency message is communicated over an intermediary communication system to an emergency message management controller;

redefining the predetermined path when failure of a transceiver along the predetermined path is detected and transmitting path information for the redefined path to transceivers along the predetermined path; and

providing cellular communications from a cellular transceiver configured to communicate with a cellular communication network.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising communicating the emergency message onto the intermediary communication system.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 42, wherein communicating the emergency message onto the intermediary communication system further comprises converting the emergency message into a suitable Internet signal, and wherein the intermediary communication system is a portion of an Internet.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 42, wherein communicating the emergency message onto the intermediary communication system further comprises converting the emergency message into a suitable digital signal, and wherein the intermediary communication system is a portion of a digital communication system.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 42, wherein communicating the emergency message onto the intermediary communication system further comprises converting the emergency message into a suitable telephone signal, and wherein the intermediary communication system is a portion of a public switched telephone network.

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 42, wherein communicating the emergency message onto the intermediary communication system further comprises converting the emergency message into a suitable Internet signal, and wherein the intermediary communication system is a portion of portions of at least an Internet, a digital communication system and a public switched telephone network.
47. (original) The method of claim 42, wherein the intermediary communication system further comprises a combination of portions of at least an Internet and a public switched telephone network.
48. (original) The method of claim 42, wherein the intermediary communication system further comprises a combination of portions of at least an Internet and a digital communication system.
49. (original) The method of claim 42, wherein the intermediary communication system further comprises a combination of portions of at least a digital communication system and a public switched telephone network.
50. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising receiving a signal from a sensing device such that generating the emergency message is made in response to receiving the signal from the sensing device.
51. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising receiving a signal from a button residing on a personal security device such that generating the emergency message is made in response to receiving the signal from the button.
52. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising receiving a signal from a keypad such that generating the emergency message is made in response to receiving the signal from the keypad.
53. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising receiving a signal from a pressure sensitive device manually actuated by a person such that generating the emergency message is made in response to receiving the signal from the pressure sensitive device.
54. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising detecting an emergency 911 call from a mobile communication device by the emergency message transceiver such that generating the emergency message is made in response to detecting an emergency 911 call and such that the location of the mobile communication device is approximated by location information associated with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver.

55. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein generating an emergency message with an emergency message transceiver further includes indicating that the emergency message is a high priority message, and wherein communicating the emergency message from the emergency message transceiver to the network further comprises halting other communications such that the emergency message is communicated on a high priority basis.

56. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein generating an emergency message with an emergency message transceiver further includes indicating that the emergency message is a high priority message, and wherein communicating the emergency message from the emergency message transceiver to the network further comprises creating bandwidth such that the emergency message is communicated on a high priority basis.

57. (previously presented) A method for communicating emergency messages and cellular communications, the method comprising:

- predetermining a path for an emergency message by broadcasting path information to components of a transceiver network, such that each component stores the path information in its memory and configures itself to react to a signal for which the component is part of the predetermined path;

- receiving an emergency message broadcasted from an emergency message transceiver, the emergency message having at least an identification code uniquely assigned to the emergency message transceiver;

- determining information relevant to the received emergency message by associating the information with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver;

- communicating the emergency message and the relevant information along a predetermined path selected from a plurality of possible paths over a network of transceivers such that assistance is summoned in response to the received emergency message; and

- receiving cellular communications from a cellular transceiver configured to communicate with a cellular communications network.

58. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein determining information further includes determining a location of the emergency message transceiver by associating an address residing in a database with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver.

59. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein determining information further includes determining at least medical information by associating the medical information

residing in a database with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver.

60. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein determining information further includes determining a person to be contacted by associating information in a database regarding the person with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver.

61. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein determining information further includes determining a nature of an emergency by associating information residing in a database regarding a device coupled to the emergency message transceiver with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver.

62. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein receiving the emergency message further includes recognizing an emergency 911 call that is detected by the emergency message transceiver, and wherein determining information further includes determining a location of the emergency message transceiver by associating an address residing in a database with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver such that a second location of a device generating the emergency 911 call is approximated.

63. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, further comprising:

receiving a second emergency message from a second emergency message transceiver;

and

determining that the received emergency message is to be disregarded.

64-65. (canceled)

66. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, further comprising:

generating a second emergency message that is communicated to at least one second emergency message transceiver; and

including within the generated second emergency message information describing of the emergency message.

67. (previously presented) A method for communicating emergency messages and cellular communications, the method comprising:

receiving an emergency message broadcasted from an emergency message management controller, the emergency message having information of interest associated with an emergency message transceiver and a predetermined transmission path that messages from the emergency message transceiver are to follow over a transceiver network;

redefining the predetermined path when failure of a transceiver along the predetermined

path is detected and transmitting path information for the redefined path to transceivers along the predetermined path;

communicating the emergency message and the information of interest to a display device; and

receiving cellular communications from a cellular transceiver configured to communicate with a cellular communications network.

68. (original) The method of claim 67, wherein the display device is a component of an always-on appliance.

69. (previously presented) The method of claim 68, further comprising communicating the emergency message to the always-on appliance using a power line carrier signal (PLC) communicated over an electric distribution system.

70. (previously presented) A system for communicating emergency messages and cellular communications, comprising:

a user device incorporating means for generating an emergency message with an emergency message transceiver, the emergency message having at least an identification code uniquely assigned to the emergency message transceiver, and means for generating cellular messages with a cellular transceiver configured to communicate with a cellular communication network; and

means for redefining the predetermined path when failure of a transceiver along the predetermined path is detected and transmitting path information for the redefined path to transceivers along the predetermined path;

means for communicating the emergency message from the emergency message transceiver to a network transceiver designated as the next transceiver along a predetermined path of transceivers in a transceiver network such that the emergency message is communicated over an intermediary communication system to an emergency message management controller.

71. (original) The system of claim 70, further comprising means for communicating the emergency message onto the intermediary communication system.

72. (original) The system of claim 71, further comprising means for converting the emergency message into a suitable Internet signal, and wherein the intermediary communication system is a portion of an Internet.

73. (original) The system of claim 71, further comprising means for converting the emergency

message into a suitable digital signal, and wherein the intermediary communication system is a portion of a digital communication system.

74. (original) The system of claim 71, further comprising means for converting the emergency message into a suitable telephone signal, and wherein the intermediary communication system is a portion of a public switched telephone network.

75. (original) The system of claim 71, further comprising means for converting the emergency message into a suitable Internet signal, and wherein the intermediary communication system is a portion of portions of at least an Internet, a digital communication system and a public switched telephone network.

76. (original) The system of claim 70, further comprising means for receiving a signal from a sensing device such that the means for generating the emergency message generates the emergency message in response to receiving the signal from the sensing device.

77. (previously presented) The system of claim 70, further comprising means for receiving a signal from a button residing on a personal security device such that the means for generating the emergency message generates the emergency message in response to receiving the signal from the button.

78. (previously presented) The system of claim 70, further comprising means for receiving a signal from a keypad such that the means for generating the emergency message generates the emergency message in response to receiving the signal from the keypad.

79. (previously presented) The system of claim 70, further comprising means for receiving a signal from a pressure sensitive device manually actuated by a person such that the means for generating the emergency message generates the emergency message in response to receiving the signal from the pressure sensitive device.

80. (previously presented) The system of claim 70, further comprising means for detecting an emergency 911 call from a mobile communication device by the emergency message transceiver such that the means for generating the emergency message generates the emergency message in response to detecting an emergency 911 call and such that a location of the mobile communication device is approximated by location information associated with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver.

81. (previously presented) A system for communicating emergency messages and cellular communications, comprising:

a device incorporating means for receiving an emergency message broadcasted from an emergency message transceiver, the emergency message having at least an identification code uniquely assigned to the emergency message transceiver, and means for receiving cellular communications from a cellular transceiver wherein the cellular transceiver is configured to communicate with a cellular communication network;

means for redefining the predetermined path when failure of a transceiver along the predetermined path is detected and transmitting path information for the redefined path to transceivers along the predetermined path;

means for determining information relevant to the received emergency message by associating the information with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver; and

means for communicating the emergency message and the relevant information along a predetermined path selected from a plurality of possible paths over a transceiver network such that assistance is summoned in response to the received emergency message.

82. (original) The system of claim 81, wherein the means for determining information further includes means for determining a location of the emergency message transceiver by associating an address residing in a database with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver.

83. (original) The system of claim 81, wherein the means for determining information further includes means for determining at least medical information by associating the medical information residing in a database with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver.

84. (original) The system of claim 81, wherein the means for determining information further includes means for determining a person to be contacted by associating information in a database regarding the person with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver.

85. (original) The system of claim 81, wherein the means for determining information further includes means for determining a nature of an emergency by associating information residing in a database regarding a device coupled to the emergency message transceiver with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver.

86. (original) The system of claim 81, wherein the means for receiving the emergency message further includes means for recognizing an emergency 911 call that is detected by the emergency

message transceiver, and wherein the means for determining information further includes means for determining a location of the emergency message transceiver by associating an address residing in a database with the identification code of the emergency message transceiver such that a second location of a device generating the emergency 911 call is approximated.

87. (original) The system of claim 81, further comprising:

- means for receiving a second emergency message from a second emergency message transceiver; and

- means for determining that the received emergency message is to be disregarded.

88-89. (canceled)

90. (original) The system of claim 81, further comprising:

- means for generating a second emergency message that is communicated to at least one second emergency message transceiver; and

- means for including within the generated second emergency message information describing of the emergency message.

91. (previously presented) A system for communicating emergency messages and cellular communications, comprising:

- a device incorporating means for receiving an emergency message broadcasted from an emergency message management controller, the emergency message having information of interest associated with an emergency message transceiver, and means for receiving cellular communications from a cellular transceiver wherein the cellular transceiver is configured to communicate with a cellular communication network;

- means for redefining the predetermined path when failure of a transceiver along the predetermined path is detected and transmitting path information for the redefined path to transceivers along the predetermined path; and

- means for communicating the emergency message and the information of interest along a predetermined path selected from a plurality of possible paths over a transceiver network to a display device.

92. (original) The system of claim 91, wherein the display device is a component of an always-on appliance.

93-98. (canceled)